

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 03142 171725Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 ITC-01
TRSE-00 CTME-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 H-01 /060 W
-----073634 171729Z /45

O 171721Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4968
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BERN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 03142

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, ECAC, BE
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: GOB NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION WITH PAA
TARIFF REVISION; GOB OBSERVATIONS ON ECAC DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 41161 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 41523

1. EMBOFF RAISED QUESTIONS REFS A AND B WITH DIRECTOR
GENERAL CIVIL AVIATION VANDERPERREN ON FEBRUARY 17.
VANDERPERREN CONFIRMED THAT GOB NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION
WITH PAA FILING TRANSMITTED VIA BRUSSELS 2833 WAS
MOTIVATED NOT ONLY BY PURELY PROCEDURAL CONSIDERATIONS
BUT BY SUBSTANTIVE DIFFICULTIES WITH PAA FILING AS WELL.
MAJOR PROBLEM GOB HAS WITH PAA PROPOSAL IS REQUEST FOR
A ONE-WAY FARE. VANDERPERREN BELIEVES ONE-WAY FARE IS
NOT NEEDED SINCE THERE IS NO REPEAT NO TIME LIMITATION
ON ROUNDTRIP BUDGET FARES. HE ADDED THAT HE AND PAA ARE
WORKING ACTIVELY TO RESOLVE THIS AND SOME OTHER MINOR
POINTS AND EXPECTS THAT GOB WILL APPROVE THE FILING.
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2. VANDERPERREN STRESSED SEVERAL TIMES DURING COURSE
OF CONVERSATION THAT BELGIAN DIFFICULTIES WITH PAA
FILING WERE NOT REPEAT NOT RELATED TO ECAC OPPOSITION
TO EXTENSION OF BUDGET FARES TO CONTINENTAL EUROPE.

3. ON ECAC QUESTIONS (REF B), VANDERPERREN SAID HE DID

NOT ATTEND MEETING BECAUSE HE IS "FED UP" WITH "HEAVY BOMBARDMENT" BELGIUM IS RECEIVING FROM OTHER MEMBERS ON THE BUDGET FARE QUESTION. VANDERPERREN SAID THAT MID-LEVEL MFA OFFICIAL HAD ATTENDED FOR GOB BUT HAD NOT YET REPORTED TO HIM ON ECAC EVENTS. HE CONTINUED THAT BELGIUM IS IN "SPLENDID ISOLATION" WITHIN ECAC ON THIS BUT NEVERTHELESS INTENDS TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE ITS OWN BEST INTERESTS. VANDERPERREN RECOGNIZES THAT FRENCH AND GERMAN INTERESTS DIFFER FROM BELGIUM'S, BUT SAYS HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY DUTCH ARE OPPOSED TO BUDGET FARES.

4. VANDERPERREN CONFIRMED THAT JANUARY MEETING OF ECAC HAD ISSUED RECOMMENDATION TO MEMBERS NOT TO APPROVE US AIRLINES' BUDGET FILINGS PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 15. ECAC EXPERTS ARE MEETING TODAY (FEBRUARY 17) AND WITH SECRETARY GENERAL ON FEBRUARY 18. VANDERPERREN SAID HE EXPECTS THIS ROUND OF MEETINGS TO CONCLUDE WITH ANOTHER ECAC TELEX RECOMMENDATION TO MEMBERS OVER THE WEEKEND TO CONTINUE TO HOLD BACK ON APPROVING BUDGET FARE APPROVALS. HE SAID HE WOULD LET US KNOW ON MONDAY IF ANYTHING OF INTEREST TRANSPIRES. CHAMBERS

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